General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 390

February Session, 2016

LCO No. **2595**

02595 HS

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
  (HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING A TWO-GENERATION INITIATIVE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1   Section 1. Section 17b-112*l* of the 2016 supplement to the general
2   statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3   (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

4   (a) There is established a two-generational school readiness and
5   workforce development pilot program. The pilot program shall
6   operate through June 30, 2017, and shall foster family economic self-
7   sufficiency in low-income households by delivering academic and job
8   readiness support services across two generations in the same
9   household. Households may include, but need not be limited to,
10   mothers, fathers, noncustodial parents and other primary caregivers.
11   The pilot program shall be located in New Haven, Greater Hartford,
12   Norwalk, Meriden, Colchester and Bridgeport. The pilot sites shall
13   work together as a learning community, informed by members of low-
14   income households within the pilot sites, peer-to-peer exchange and
15   technical assistance in best practices. For purposes of this section,
16   "Greater Hartford" means Hartford, East Hartford and West Hartford.

17   (b) The two-generational school readiness and workforce
18   development pilot program shall serve as a blueprint for a state-wide,
19   two-generational school readiness and workforce development model
20   and may include opportunities for state-wide learning, in addition to
21   the pilot sites, in two generational system building and policy
22   development. The pilot program shall be funded by state and available
23   private moneys and shall include:

24   (1) Early learning programs, adult education, child care, housing,
25   job training, transportation, financial literacy and other related support
26   services, including, but not limited to, health and mental health
27   services, offered at one location, wherever possible;

28   (2) Development of a long-term plan to adopt a two-generational
29   model for the delivery of the services described in subdivision (1) of
30   this subsection on a state-wide basis. Such plan shall include, but need
31   not be limited to, (A) the targeted use of Temporary Assistance for
32   Needy Families (TANF) funds, to the extent permissible under federal
33   law, to support two-generational programming, and (B) state grant
34   incentives for private entities that develop such two-generational
35   programming;

36   (3) Partnerships between state and national philanthropic
37   organizations, as available, to provide the pilot sites and interagency
38   working group established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section
39   with technical assistance in the phase-in and design of model two-
40   generational programs and practices, an evaluation plan, state-wide
41   replication and implementation of the program; and

42   (4) A workforce liaison to gauge the needs of employers and
43   households in each community and help coordinate the two-
44   generational program to meet the needs of such employers and
45   households.

46   (c) The program shall be overseen by an interagency working group
47   that shall include, but need not be limited to, the Commissioners of

48 Social Services, Early Childhood, Education, Housing, Transportation,
49 Public Health and Correction, or each commissioner's designee; the
50 Labor Commissioner, or the Labor Commissioner's designee; the Chief
51 Court Administrator, or the Chief Court Administrator's designee; one
52 member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
53 having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the
54 budgets of state agencies, appointed by the speaker of the House of
55 Representatives; one member of the joint standing committee of the
56 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
57 services, appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; one
58 member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
59 having cognizance of matters relating to education, appointed by the
60 minority leader of the Senate; one member of the joint standing
61 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
62 relating to public health, appointed by the minority leader of the
63 House of Representatives; not more than six members of low-income
64 households selected by the agency coordinating services at each pilot
65 site, representatives of nonprofit and philanthropic organizations and
66 scholars who are experts in two-generational programs and policies;
67 and other business and academic professionals as needed to achieve
68 goals for two-generational systems planning, evaluations and
69 outcomes. The staff of the Commission on Children shall serve as the
70 organizing and administrative staff of the working group.

71 (d) Coordinators of two-generational programs in each community
72 in the pilot program and any organization serving as a fiduciary for
73 the program shall report on a quarterly basis to the interagency
74 working group.

75 (e) Not later than January 1, 2017, the interagency working group
76 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
77 4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
78 cognizance of matters relating to education, housing, human services,
79 public health, transportation and appropriations and the budgets of
80 state agencies that **[**details: (1) The number of families served in the

81   program; (2) the number of adults who have obtained jobs since
82   receiving services from the program; (3) the number of children who
83   have improved academically, including, but not limited to, (A)
84   achievement band increases, and (B) improvements in reading
85   comprehension and math literacy; (4) the number of adults who have
86   received job training, completed job training, enrolled in educational
87   courses and obtained educational certificates or degrees; (5)**]** states: (1)
88   The parent-informed strategies selected for success; (2) the challenges
89   and opportunities in working with a parent and child concurrently to
90   promote school and workforce success; (3) the changes in policy,
91   program, budget or communications on the local and state levels to
92   achieve the goals of the program; (4) child, parent and family
93   outcomes in the areas of school readiness and school success, as
94   determined by the interagency working group in consultation with
95   state and national evaluators; (5) workforce readiness, work success
96   and family support outcomes, as determined by the interagency
97   working group in consultation with state and national evaluators; (6)
98   the cost of the program in both state and private dollars; and **[**(6)**]** (7)
99   recommendations to expand the program to additional communities
100 state wide.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2016*	17b-112*l*

Statement of Purpose:

To expand an interagency working group overseeing a two-generation work and academic success pilot program and clarify reporting requirements and other provisions of the program.